

County Hospital. It may be taken for granted that in any later criticisms by the public press of such an expenditure that the majority of lay fellow citizens and taxpayers would probably feel that the said expenditure was brought about largely through request or demand of the attending physicians. Yet such an imputation would be most unfair.

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Further References to This Subject in the Miscellany Department of This Issue.—Readers of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE who are interested in these construction costs of a new hospital building to care for some of the sick poor of Los Angeles County may find further items in the quotations from the lay press which are printed in the Miscellany department of this issue.* A perusal of the same will indicate why the editor closed last month's editorial in CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE with the following words:

"We must all agree that it will be most interesting to note the different influences and effects which this large public hospital, now in course of construction for the care of indigent citizens of Los Angeles County, will have on the lay public, and on private medical practice, both in and beyond the geographical domain of that county."

WILLIAM TAYLOR McARTHUR
1866-1930

Death has again taken from our midst one of the ex-presidents of the California Medical Association. Our genial colleague, William Taylor McArthur of Los Angeles, who was president of our state medical association in 1927, was called from his earthly work on March 11, 1930. For several years, in fact even during his term as president of the California Medical Association, Doctor McArthur, because of poor health, had found it necessary to safeguard and conserve his energy, but this fact, known to his friends, he quietly kept from others.

Doctor McArthur was an excellent type of the true physician—able, gentle, kind, generous and thoughtful; and possessing in addition to all these virtues, a charming and lovable personality that endeared him to all who had the good fortune to meet and to know him, whether in the relationship of patient, colleague, neighbor, friend or fellow citizen. His was a life of quiet, unostentatious uplift. The world and the medical profession are the better for his having lived. *Requiescat in pace.*

BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA—ITS REPORT

State Examining Board Now a Division of the Department of Professional and Vocational Standards.—The first annual report of the California Board of Medical Examiners to be brought out since its existence as a division of the Department of Professional and Vocational Standards has just come off the press.

It contains much information worthy of consideration by all members of the medical profes-

sion who believe in accepting their share of responsibility in the maintenance of proper professional standards for practitioners of the healing art. An inspection of the pages of this report indicates how many and difficult are the problems which must be solved by the colleagues who accept service as members of this board.

In the memories of older members of the California Medical Association are recollections of controversies which were centered around our state examining board, and which at times were carried on with much fierceness. In recent years the work of the board of examiners has gone forward so smoothly that a goodly number of members of the California Medical Association almost forget its existence, while others are prone to think that because of the absence of newspaper publicity it must be side-stepping its responsibilities. Such is not the case however. It may be said that our examining board has never rendered more efficient or conscientious service than in recent years, and its members deserve and have the thanks of the medical profession for their loyal and altruistic efforts to maintain proper standards and to carry out the various provisions of the state medical practice act which have been provided to better safeguard the public health.

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Why Should Not This Annual Report Be Printed as a Part of the Yearly Directory?—

Members of the California Medical Association who are interested should write to the California Board of Medical Examiners, 623 State Building, San Francisco, and request a copy of this report. Which suggests the thought that inasmuch as every California physician must pay an annual licensure tax, that this annual report might well be printed in next year's annual directory, a copy of which directory is sent to every licensed physician. The members of the medical profession are not only entitled, but should know what are the activities and problems of this examining board; and since that board is supported not by funds from general taxation sources but by a special levy on members of the profession, no legitimate objection should be raised to such use of printers' ink by either the director of professional and vocational standards, or by any other state executive or executives. If such objection is raised because of presumable legal obstacles, then a proper enabling act should be submitted to the next legislature. In an effort of this kind, the proper officers of the California Medical Association would no doubt be glad to cooperate.

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Excerpts from the Report Printed in This Issue.—In the California Board of Medical Examiners column in this issue are printed some excerpts which indicate how worth while this information is and especially so if the annual report of the board could reach every physician as a part of his yearly directory. It is hoped that the Board of Medical Examiners will see fit to consider, and if possible to adopt the suggestions here made.

* See page 298 of this issue.